



Dear Interested Party:

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is announcing the opportunity for public and not-for-profit organizations to submit applications for a Hunger-Free Communities grant competition. Two models of grants will be funded: 1) assessment and planning grants and 2) implementation grants. FNS has set aside \$1 million dollars for assessment and planning grants where applicants will assess the level of hunger and food insecurity in their community and develop a plan to become hunger-free. For communities that already have a plan to end hunger and need resources for program implementation, FNS has set aside \$4 million for implementation grants.

An applicant may only apply for one model of grant as part of this grant solicitation; however, those applying for an assessment and planning grant may apply for an implementation grant in a future year if additional funds are made available to continue this program.

The Federal share of the cost of the activities funded by these grants will not exceed 80 percent of the total cost of the grant project. The applicant is responsible for the remaining 20 percent. Projects funded will not exceed a two-year period of grant performance.

These are collaborative grants, and applicants are required to partner with one or more organizations in their communities. Applicants are also required to partner with Food Policy Councils or their functional equivalent at the local level or include the creation of a Food Policy Council as part of their application should one not serve their community. Information regarding Food Policy Councils is available on the web, including a Food Policy Council Report by Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy at <http://www.foodfirst.org/files/pdf/Food%20Policy%20Councils%20Report%20small.pdf>.

Interested parties must adhere to all the enclosed application material requirements in order to be considered for funding. FNS must receive completed grant applications on or before 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), September 1, 2010. FNS will not accept late applications and will not consider any additions or revisions to the applications once received. Applicants are responsible for meeting the due date.

Applications may be submitted by email to: HungerFreeCommunities@fns.usda.gov. All applications and supporting documents submitted via e-mail should be in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) file format. Additionally, the Organizational Authorized Representative (OAR) signature shown on all application documents is required. Applications in file formats other than Adobe Acrobat and without the OAR signature will not be considered.

Applications may also be submitted via www.grants.gov. Please allow ample time to familiarize yourself with the system's requirements including the need to download and use software required for submitting grants through this portal. A DUNS number CCR number are required to submit an application via Grants.gov. FNS recommends that applicants submit their applications to www.grants.gov at least two weeks before the due date in case the website experiences problems. Applicants that opt to submit their application via Grants.gov must send an email to Carla Garcia, Grants Officer, at Carla.Garcia@fns.usda.gov advising that the application was submitted through Grants.gov. This email must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on the application due date of September 1, 2010.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "S. Duke Storen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "S." and last name "Storen" clearly legible.

S. Duke Storen
Director
Office of Strategic Initiatives, Partnerships, and Outreach

Enclosure